

**COMMERCIAL USE AUTHORIZATION FOR GUIDED INTERPRETATIVE DAY HIKING**  
**OPERATING PLAN-ATTACHMENT B**

**General Provisions**

- 1) The CUA for Day Hiking allows the CUA holder to conduct guided interpretative day hiking.
- 2) Overnight backcountry use is not an authorized use.
- 3) CUA holders are encouraged to stay on designated trails. All off-trail travel must be reported in the monthly use reports (see reporting requirements). Specific areas may be closed to off-trail travel if impacts are noted.
- 4) CUA holders are limited to three groups per day. Maximum group size is 15 plus at least one guide. Each group must be dispersed a minimum of 60 minutes apart and groups may not congregate at a destination. Group size may increase with written permission from the park.
- 5) The CUA holders shall be liable for damage to any property of the United States resulting from the use authorized hereunder.
- 6) Violation of any park regulation or terms of this permit may result in issuance of a violation notice, suspension of privileges granted by this permit, or revocation of this permit.
- 7) Guides must meet clients outside of park concessioner's land assignment and NPS Visitor Centers.

**Administrative Requirements**

- 8) Section 512 of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009, P.L. 111-24, 123 Stat. 1764-65, allows persons to possess firearms while in units of the National Park and National Wildlife Refuge Systems if they are possessed in compliance with applicable federal and state law.

The Following are specific requirements for operating in Yellowstone National Park:

- CUA employees may not possess firearms while on duty. The superintendent, in his or her sole discretion, may grant exceptions to this prohibition upon consideration of a written request from the CUA's general manager with a thorough explanation of the basis of the request.
- CUA holders are responsible for determining how they will interpret and implement State firearm possession laws in regard to their clients. The CUA and/or its legal counsel should consult the applicable state attorney general's office for access to relevant state firearms laws.
- The on-duty employees in Yellowstone Park, will be prohibited from firearm possession:
  1. \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No
  2. I will \_\_\_\_ will not \_\_\_\_ allow visitors to carry firearms while participating in this service.

**Staffing and Employment**

Revised 11.1.13

- 9) At a minimum, one guide on each trip must be currently certified in standard first aid and CPR, and carry a first aid kit. Wilderness 1<sup>st</sup> Aid or Wilderness First Responder certification is recommended. A written list of guides and dates of standard first-aid certification must be provided to the Concessions Management Office prior to the beginning of the operational season. Copies of first-aid cards need not be submitted.
- 10) Guides must be at least 18 years of age and trained in basic safety, resource protection, Leave No Trace principles, park rules and regulations, and the nature and demands of the trip. Leave No Trace certification is recommended.
- 11) One guide on each trip must have previous, relevant outdoor experience including previous experience on the trails and /or area they are guiding.
- 12) The guide for any trip, within the park, must have a basic knowledge of map reading, and must have a topographic map for the area of their trip. It is recommended the guide have a compass and knowledge of compass use.

### **Operational Requirements**

- 13) While in Yellowstone, the CUA holder or guide is responsible for their clients for the guided portion of the trip.
- 14) "Foot travel in all thermal areas and within the Yellowstone Canyon between the Upper Falls and Inspiration Point must be confined to boardwalks or trails that are maintained for such travel and are marked by official signs." 36 CFR, Ch1, se. 7.13(i) No off-trail travel is allowed; stay on designated boardwalks and trails.
- 15) The CUA holder must ensure that all clients and guides stay at least 100 yards from bears and wolves. A distance of 25 yards is required from bison, elk and other animals. Regardless of any distance, if any wild animal changes its behavior due to your group's presence, you are too close.
- 16) The CUA holder or guide shall provide all clients with an orientation prior to the trip which emphasizes safe practices while hiking in bear habitat, Leave No Trace ethics, park rules and regulations, and specific nature, demands, and dangers of the particular trip.
- 17) The CUA holder is responsible for ensuring that all clients are safely equipped and properly clothed prior to the trip.
- 18) Each guide must carry a minimum of one can of bear spray. Bear spray for clients is recommended.
- 19) The CUA holder must abide by the Food Storage and Food Sanitation Guidelines found in Appendix A.
- 20) For further backcountry guidelines and regulations, please refer to the information provided in "Beyond Road's End" available in any Backcountry Office.
- 21) The CUA holder must provide all visitor services in a manner that is consistent with and supportive of the interpretative goals and objectives of the park.

**Reporting requirements**

- 22) All accidents must be reported to a ranger as soon as possible.
- 23) The CUA holder will provide to the Concessions Management Office a monthly report indicating the date, number of visitors guided, and locations visited for the preceding month of operation. For off-trail travel, specific written descriptions are preferred and/or by UTM. Reports must be received no later than the end of the following month.

**I have read and agree to the Day Hiking conditions. I hereby confirm that the above conditions will be reiterated to all guides associated with this business.**

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CUA Holder's Signature

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Date

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Title

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Company Name

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